

analysis, physician-industry interactions appear to affect prescribing and professional behavior and should be further addressed at policy and education levels.

Over the years, I have personally received numerous examples of outlandish drug company gifts to physicians. One memorable example came from a physician who sent me a sample of perks he received over the course of one week. The week started with an invitation to the horse races—including a private suite, lunch and open bar from noon to 3:00 pm. Only a day later, he was offered free dinner at a fine restaurant where meals averaged \$25/plate, and on the next day he received major league baseball tickets for the entire family.

As yet another example of industry-physician interaction, I would like to insert in the RECORD, a March 9, 2000 USA Today article. This article describes a growing trend among advertising and marketing firms to sponsor physician continuing medical education courses that doctors in 34 states need to keep their licenses. These marketing firms are paid by drug companies and often hire faculty to teach these courses and educate medical professionals about their sponsors' products. This provides drug companies with another opportunity to impact physician prescribing practice and attitudes while increasing their company profits.

At my request, the Congressional Research Service (CRS) last December completed an analysis of the tax treatment of the pharmaceutical industry. The conclusion of that report is that tax credits contributed powerfully to lowering the average effective tax rate for drug companies by nearly 40% relative to other major industries from 1990 to 1996. For this reason, I introduced the Prescription Price Equity Act of 2000 to deny research tax credits to pharmaceutical companies that sell their products at significantly higher prices in the U.S. as compared to their sales in other industrialized countries. The U.S. government already provides lucrative tax credits to the pharmaceutical industry in this country, making additional tax deductions seem particularly unnecessary.

The pharmaceutical industry reaps billions in profits every year and certainly does not need excessive tax breaks. Fortune magazine rates the pharmaceutical industry as the most profitable business in America. The average compensation for 12 drug company CEOs was \$22 million in 1998. Likewise, CRS reported that after-tax profits for the pharmaceutical industry averaged 17%—three times higher than the 5% profit margin of other industries.

Although U.S. drug companies claim their exorbitant profits are justified by the high cost of research and development, pharmaceutical companies generally spend twice as much on marketing and administration as they do on research and development. In fact, some companies are guilty of spending even more than twice as much on advertising/administration expenses. For example, Merck & Pfizer spent only 11% of revenues on R&D in 1997, and spent more than twice that amount (28%) on administration and marketing making available an abundance of funds for generous drug company "gifts."

Research and development is a much more important pharmaceutical expenditure than the

billions of dollars wasted on drug company gifts to physicians. Our nation has reaped great rewards as a result of pharmaceutical research; pharmaceutical and biotech research have discovered life-saving cures and treatments for ailments that afflict our society. But drug companies can do more. If the pharmaceutical industry would stop wasteful spending on promotions and spend instead on R&D, think of all the additional lives that could be saved.

Currently, one third of Medicare beneficiaries have no coverage for prescription drugs and two-thirds of beneficiaries have no coverage or unreliable drug coverage. Over half of our most vulnerable are above the poverty level. That's why I've introduced H.R. 1495, Access to Prescription Medications in Medicare Act. This bill provides a universal, comprehensive Medicare drug benefit with a \$200 deductible and 20% coinsurance for seniors up to \$1,700 per year. Seniors with very high drug expenses get 100% of their drug costs paid by Medicare (i.e., stop-loss) after \$3,000 in annual out-of-pocket spending.

The need for this bill is clear. Denying the pharmaceutical industry the ability to deduct expenditures for certain gifts and benefits to physicians is a critical step in providing Americans with access to more life-saving drugs. By redirecting drug company promotional expenditures to their R&D budgets, the American public should reap the benefit of increased medical breakthroughs. To the extent the companies do not redirect these expenditures to R&D, the denial of the tax deduction will help finance a Medicare prescription drug benefit to ensure that our nation's seniors and disabled have access to the medications they need.

A TRIBUTE TO COL. JOSEPH D.  
HUGHES, JR.

**HON. MIKE McINTYRE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2000

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Col. Joseph D. Hughes, Jr., who is retiring from the North Carolina National Guard after 37 years of service to the Tar Heel State.

As superintendent of the Maneuver Area Training Equipment Site at Fort Bragg, NC for the past 11 years, Colonel Hughes has been responsible for a variety of tasks, including supervision of essential personnel and maintenance of defense equipment. Through each of these duties, Colonel Hughes has performed admirably and thoroughly. In addition, Colonel Hughes has worked with my Fayetteville district office on a variety of issues to assist the citizens of the seventh congressional district. For his service to our region, our State, and our Nation, I am thankful, and we all should be grateful.

President John F. Kennedy once said, "For those to whom much is given, much is required. And when at some future date when history judges us, recording whether in our brief span of service we fulfilled our responsibilities to the state, our success or failure, in whatever office we hold, will be measured by

the answers to four questions: First, were we truly men of courage . . . Second, were we truly men of judgment . . . Third, were we truly men of integrity . . . Finally, were we truly men of dedication?" Colonel Hughes will truthfully be able to answer each of these questions in the affirmative. He is indeed a man of courage, judgment, integrity, and dedication.

Colonel, as you enter this next stage of your life, may the time with your family and loved ones be blessed and plentiful. May your memories be proud and positive, and may your life continue to be enriched with peace, joy and heartfelt thanks from your neighbors, friends, and loved ones.

IN HONOR OF SHERRILL'S BAKERY

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Sherrill's Bakery, the "Fine Pastry, Fine Foods" bakery located at 233 Pennsylvania Ave., in Washington, DC. Sherrill's Bakery has fed Capitol Hill and countless visiting tourists from throughout the nation for generations.

Established in 1922, Sherrill's Bakery has changed hands once to current owner, Dorothy Paletto, known to her employees as Dottie. Dottie and her mother, affectionately known as "Miss Lola," have owned the bakery since 1941. The recipes are their own special recipes, reminiscent of a time when all restaurants were family-owned, when everybody knew your name and you knew theirs. Along with Dottie, Miss Lola, the remarkably loyal staff of Tommie Kennedy (who has worked at Sherrill's since 1941), Yolanda, and Patrick serve as the wait staff, with Leon and Ivory holding the honors in the kitchen.

Upon entering the restaurant you are pulled into a comfort zone, a laid back atmosphere where you talk to the wait staff about more than just your order. It's more than just a restaurant; it's a community, with a common bond of enjoying Sherrill's unique ambiance and tasty delights. Sherrill's Bakery is just like returning to your favorite neighborhood restaurant from your youth, always there and never changing. For all the changes that have taken place, on Capitol Hill and its immediate neighborhoods, the one constant has been Sherrill's Bakery.

The bakery serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner. It is open 7 days a week, Monday through Friday, from 6 am until 6 pm. Saturdays hours are from 7 am until 6 pm, and on Sundays the bakery is open from 7 am until 4 pm. On weekends, the line of customers stretch out the door.

Sherrill's Bakery is my favorite restaurant here on Capital Hill; I go there faithfully every morning since it reminds me of my favorite neighborhood diners back in Cleveland, Ohio. The wait staff recognizes regular customers like me and my regular waiter, Patrick, is quick to promptly place my breakfast order, which he knows by heart: two slices of plain wheat toast, a bowl of oatmeal and a cup of hot water with a slice of lemon on the side. Three

bucks the entire meal, the best bargain anywhere.

In 1990, a film documentary was done on the bakery for the Public Broadcasting Service. The PBS documentary was nominated for an Emmy Award for best documentary, finishing in second place. Many celebrities have relaxed in the dusty diner with dingy windows and neon lights. Celebrities such as actors Mike Farrell (from *M\*A\*S\*H*) and Robert Bedford, California State Senator, Tom Hayden; Rock 'n' Roll legend, Sam Moore of Sam & Dave; Apollo 11 astronaut, Buzz Aldrin; and former California Governor and current Oakland Mayor, Jerry Brown, have all spent time in its timeless booths and on its counter stools. Sherrill's has also been the subject of several in-depth news articles and profiles, most notably in the New York Times, the Washington Post, the Washington Times, and Roll Call.

Please join me honoring Sherrill's Bakery for their wonderful food and presence here on Capitol Hill.

HONORING MRS. ESTER GEDDIS

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Ester Geddis, an educator, entrepreneur, wife, parent, and a pillar of her community. I honor her today because she has devoted her life to serving the needs of others.

Mrs. Geddis was born the tenth of eleven children to Enoch and Geneva Pringle in South Carolina. Upon the completion of her formal education in Charleston, SC, Ester married her husband, James Geddis, in 1959. That union has given her two daughters, Ava Gaillard and Felisa Geddis-Hawkins, adopted son Antonio L. Litmon, granddaughters Heaven and Joy Hawkins, and son-in-law Jerome Gaillard.

Mrs. Geddis attended Brooklyn College in the midst of marriage and motherhood, where she received her bachelor of science degree in education in 1977. Upon completion of her education, Mrs. Geddis began her career in education in 1978 as a classroom teacher in the Children and Youth Department at Kingsborough Psychiatric Center. She was then promoted to the position of educational supervisor in 1986. Mrs. Geddis went on to serve as educational supervisor at Brooklyn Children's Center, and then as supervisor for the Department of Aging's Foster Grandparent program, where she has remained until her retirement.

Mrs. Geddis has been actively involved in the Lions Club for over 20 years. She has been a member in the East New York Lions Club, East Brooklyn Lions Club, and she is currently active in the Central Brooklyn Lions Club. She also has always been a member of the Riverside Club. She has also been an active member of the First Baptist Church of Crown Heights for 25 years.

Mrs. Geddis' hard work had not gone unnoticed. She was listed in "Who's Who In America—1980," and "Who's Who In The World—

1990." The Concerned Women of Brooklyn recognized her with an award for her dedicated service, and the Riverside Club presented her with their Achievement Award for Outstanding Achievement in Business and Profession.

Because she knows what hard work and dedication can do, Mrs. Geddis founded E & E Catering in 1980, along with her partner Ermine Myers. In addition to catering many events for me, through E & E Catering, Mrs. Geddis has had the opportunity to nourish many distinguished persons, including President Nelson Mandela, Mayor David Dinkins, Reverend Herbert Daughtry, and numerous others as well as civic, private, and community organizations.

Mrs. Geddis has traveled to Africa and many other continents. However, it was in Africa where she gained many friends and met many people whom she helped and sponsored over the years. It can truly be said that all of the many people who have been in the company of Mrs. Ester Geddis have truly been blessed and inspired by her undying spirit and love.

Mrs. Ester Geddis is more than worthy of receiving this honor, and Mr. Speaker, I hope that all of my colleagues will join me today in honoring this truly remarkable woman.

IN MEMORY OF HOLLIS M.  
KETCHUM

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2000

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of an outstanding Missourian, Hollis Ketchum of Jefferson City. He was 81.

Hollis Ketchum was born July 4, 1918, in Downing, MO, a son of Ellis and Melvina Donaldson Ketchum. He graduated from Downing High School and Kirksville State Teachers College. As an Army veteran of World War II, Mr. Ketchum received two Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Clusters. He entered the Army Reserve and then transferred to the Missouri National Guard. He retired at the rank of colonel after 34 years of military service.

Prior to entering the service, Mr. Ketchum taught school in Schuyler County for 4 years. Upon his return from the war, he was employed at the Division of Liquor Control for 19 years, serving as the director for 12 years. After that, he was employed by the Distilled Spirits Council of the United States for 18 years and acted as director of field activities for the last 10 years.

Mr. Ketchum was an active member of his community. He belonged to the First Baptist Church, Jefferson Lodge 43, Capital Shrine Club and the Moolah Temple in St. Louis. Additionally, he was a member and past president of the National Conference of State Liquor Administrators, the Missouri State Skeet Association, Capital City Square Dancers Association, and the United Sportsman Club.

I know the members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his

family: his wife, Bobbie Nail; his daughter, Jackie Soltys; his son, Randy Ketchum; his stepson, Dr. Roger Nail; his stepdaughter, Patricia Stokes; his brother, two grandchildren and five step grandchildren.

TRIBUTE TO MR. AND MRS. PHIL  
AND CHARLOTTE PETERSON

**HON. CARRIE P. MEEK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2000

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is indeed a great privilege to pay tribute to Phil and Charlotte Peterson, who will be feted by hordes of friends and admirers this Sunday, March 26, 2000, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at historic Miami Shores Country Club. If there was ever a dynamic duo that genuinely enhances the good name and stellar reputation of a particular community, then Phil and Charlotte would admirably fit that billing.

Phil Sheridan Peterson, Jr. was born in Sturgeon Bay, WI and comes from a very distinguished lineage. Named after his grandfather, the legendary General Philip Sheridan, Phil faithfully upholds to this very day the tradition of duty to country and honor to God that buttressed the much-heralded exploits of his granddad. Growing up during the Depression era and losing his mother at the tender age of three, Phil had to quickly become the steady hand and exemplar to three other younger siblings, a sister and two brothers.

His wife Charlotte, on the other hand, was delicately schooled in the appreciation of music and the arts. As fate would have it, she met Phil when she was barely 12 years old, while picking cherries to contribute to her family's sustenance at a Wisconsin orchard managed by him. It was indeed love at first sight, and as she is wont to say: " \* \* \* from that day on, I've been working for him ever since."

As World War II unleashed its fury, young Phil, then a fresh high school graduate, unhesitatingly responded to his country's call to duty and joined the U.S. Navy. His tour of service sent him to the Baltic Sea where he soon braved numerous air raids, sea battles and killer storms that wrecked havoc on his fleet ships, tragically claiming the lives of some 1,200 brave Americans. Having survived the war's harrowing ordeals, Phil Peterson returned home a much-decorated hero and thereby earned his rightful niche in the annals of the greatest generation of Americans who ever lived.

Upon his discharge from the U.S. Navy, Phil went back to school to finish his education at the University of Wisconsin where he became an extraordinary feature on the school's football and wrestling team. During this time Charlotte was also at the end of getting her college degree. Upon graduation from college, Phil and Charlotte got married on December 27, 1947. Through this union they were blessed with five wonderful children, who are now themselves successful and productive adult members of society.

While they managed to get back and tend to the family Peterson orchard farm in Wisconsin, their adventurous spirit soon propelled their relocation in Florida's Key West, finally settling